

PUBLIC NOTICE – BLACKSBURG/CHRISTIANSBURG REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on DEQ's determination of *tentative compliance* for the regional water supply plan developed by the Town of Blacksburg and the Town of Christiansburg in accordance with §9 VAC 25-780, et seq., Local and Regional Water Supply Planning regulation.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: January 4, 2013 – February 5, 2013

DESCRIPTION OF WATER SUPPLY PLAN: The Regional Water Supply Plan (the "Plan") for the Town of Blacksburg and the Town of Christiansburg, dated August 30, 2011, and the associated Drought Response Contingency Plan identify existing water sources within the planning area, estimate current and future water demand, and assess the need for additional sources for future water supply. DEQ has issued a *tentative determination of compliance* to Lori Lester, Water Resources Manager of the Town of Blacksburg. Following is a summary of the Plan.

The towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg are located in the New River drainage basin. The Blacksburg, Christiansburg, VPI Water Authority ("Water Authority"), jointly owned by the two towns and Virginia Tech, is responsible for treatment of the raw water supply. The towns maintain and operate the distribution systems and storage tanks that provide water distribution and fire protection for customers within the service area. Current self-supplied users account for less than 1% of the population within the planning area, a number which is not expected to increase due to town code requirements that new development connect to the community water system.

The planning area population is projected to increase by 36,535 (from 56,520 to 93,055) between 2000 and 2050, and water demand is anticipated to increase accordingly; however, the projected water demand for both towns into the foreseeable future is well below the Water Authority's permitted output. The Plan indicates that available resources and the permitted capacity of the treatment plant exceed current and future demand projections outlined in the Plan.

Although demand is not projected to exceed supply now or into the future, water demand management alternatives are identified as solutions to meet future demand, including implementation of a more rigorous leak detection program, increased public outreach on water conservation, encouragement of gray water recycling, completion of pump capacity upgrades, interconnection with neighboring localities, and development of increased storage capacity.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period. The water supply plan is available from the contact below or on the DEQ website at www.deq.virginia.gov. Upon review of written comments submitted in response to this public notice, DEQ staff will make a final compliance determination decision.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Ms. Tammy Stephenson, Program Coordinator, Office of Water Supply, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, 3019 Peters Creek Road, Roanoke, VA 24019; Phone: 540-562-6828; E-mail: tammy.stephenson@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (540) 562-6725.